REMARKS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and Applicant(s) respectfully request that the claims as amended be examined.

Please add new Claims 31 – 33.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c), a clean version of the entire set of pending claims is provided hereinabove and a marked up version of the claims being changed by the current amendment is attached hereto. The only change made by this amendment is the addition of Claims 31 – 33.

Authorization to charge Daly, Crowley & Mofford, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0845 for any excess fees due or credit any overpayment is hereby given.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this amendment or this application, he or she is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: 4 Sheets of Claims with markings showing changes made

27. The method of claim 4 wherein the packets correspond to MAC layer packets.

28. The method of claim 4 wherein the packets contain one or more encapsulated IP packets.

29. The method of claim 9 wherein the recombination is done without packet identifying information.

30. The method of claim 14 wherein the transmit site utilizes a TCP gateway.

31. (New) A method of sending data comprising:

dividing a transmit data stream having a first bit rate into multiple data streams with each of the multiple data streams having a bit rate which is lower than the first bit rate; and

transmitting each of the multiple data streams over a plurality of RF channels, wherein at least one of the RF channels serves a plurality of users.

32. (New) The method of Claim 31 wherein transmitting each of the multiple data streams over a plurality of RF channels includes transmitting each of the multiple data streams over a plurality of RF channels, wherein each of the plurality of RF channels is provided having a different carrier frequency.

33. (New) The method of Claim 32 wherein transmitting each of the multiple data streams over a plurality of RF channels includes transmitting each of the multiple data streams over a plurality of RF channels, wherein each of the plurality of RF channels correspond to RF channels carried over an RF cable and wherein each of the plurality of RF channels is provided having a different carrier frequency.

Version of the Claims with Markings Showing Changes Made

1. A method of sending data from a transmit site to a receive site, the method comprising:
dividing a transmit data stream having a first bit rate into multiple data streams with each of the multiple data streams having a bit rate which is lower than the first bit rate; transmitting each of the multiple data streams over a plurality of RF channels, wherein at least one of the RF channels serves a plurality of users; and recombining the multiple data streams at the receive site to provide a receive data stream having a bit rate equal to the first bit rate.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein data is sent from the transmit site to a plurality of receive sites.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein data is sent from a plurality of transmit sites to a receive site.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein each of the multiple data streams are packetized.

5. The method of claim 4 further comprising:
establishing a plurality of virtual links over each RF channel between send and receive sites; and distributing packets over the plurality of virtual links in a controlled fashion.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the controlled fashion is via load balancing.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein the controlled fashion takes into account scheduling policies.

8. The method of claim 4 further comprising :
maintaining a separate queue for each of the plurality of RF channels;
placing each packet into one of the separate queues; and